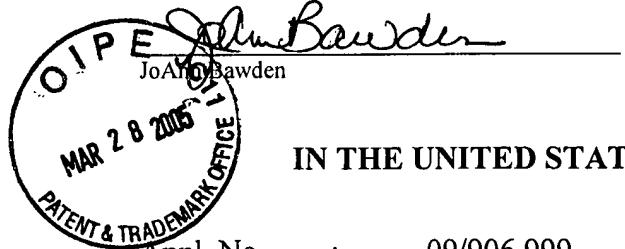


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/906,999 Confirmation No. 6480
Applicant : Martin et al.
Filed : July 16, 2001
TC/A.U. : 2829
Examiner : Russell M. Kobert

Docket No. : P137-US

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action of December 27, 2004, the shorted statutory period for response to which ends after March 28, 2005 (the first business day following March 27, 2005), Applicants request that the above-identified application be amended under 37 CFR § 1.116 as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the list of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.